

FEMA REGION 6 SPOT REPORT #5

Updates in RED

SPOT REPORT: Explosion at West Fertilizer Plant (West, Texas)

DATE AND TIME OF OCCURRENCE: April 17, 2013 at approximately 19:50 CDT

INCIDENT SUMMARY: An explosion was caused by a fire at the West Fertilizer Plant in West, TX (McLennan County, 19 miles north of Waco- Map: <http://goo.gl/maps/rKk1u>):

- Unconfirmed reports 5-10 fatalities
- Unconfirmed 200+ injuries reported; some people still missing
- The critically injured have been evacuated and non-critical patients are being transported to the Atrium Nursing Home in Bellmead, TX.
- 75-100 homes/businesses destroyed
- Precautionary evacuation for entire town of West

ESF 6 Report:

- Three (3) shelters: One shelter is for staff; the other two (2) are independent shelters:
 - Springs Baptist Camp – Overnight/morning population comprised of staff ONLY = 19
 - Independent shelters are Abbot ISD and Penelope School (no population).
- The Salvation Army has four (4) mobile kitchens on scene and HEB (grocery store) will have a kitchen by the afternoon
 - Most feeding is for first responders
- American Red Cross has a representative at the Incident Command Post
- Bulk distribution of clean up supplies has begun
- Future planning operations:
 - Open a Multi-Agency Assistance Center in coordination with governmental and VOAD partners.
 - Assemble Integrated Care Teams (consist of a nurse, caseworker, and a Disaster Mental Health Counselor
 - Open Emergency Aid Stations in vicinity of affected area.

Concerns:

- Potential weather information and on any conditions that could affect operations (i.e. wind shifts).

SIGNIFICANCE OF EVENT: High

SOURCE OF FEMA R6 Logistics and Operations, Department of Health and Human

INFORMATION:

Services, FEMA Region 6 JRMPO Rep, State of Texas Operations Center SOC), FEMA R6 National Preparedness Law Enforcement Liaison, FEMA R6 External Affairs

**ACTIONS/
FOLLOW UP:****State Actions:**

- **State will be requesting an Emergency Declaration later today for Cat B to include DFA and will potentially follow up with a request for IA PDAs once they complete the local disaster assessments.**
- The SOC is at Level II (Escalated Response Conditions) in support of the Fertilizer Plant Explosion.
- Texas Department of Public Safety: Helping secure the area for law enforcement personnel to conduct business and maintain public safety.
- Guard Homeland Response Force (HRF) remain on alert and ready to assist if needed.
- Communications Coordination Group (CCG): Activated to provide additional emergency communication resources and/or support as needed.
- Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT): Two 300-gallon fuel trailers from the TxDOT Bryan District have been sent to West, along with four personnel and four trucks to assist with mobile fueling; 18 personnel and nine trucks are closing city streets to block off the affected area. Other available sites for refueling are the TxDOT Waco District Office and TxDOT Hill County Area Office in Hillsboro.
- Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC): Providing support personnel.
- Texas Railroad Commission: Monitoring pipelines in the affected area.
- Texas Education Agency: Working with the local school district to coordinate any immediate needs. Schools in West are closed for the remainder of the week.
- Texas Forest Service: Incident Management Team assisting the Texas Division of Emergency Management with planning and logistics.

Federal Actions:

- FEMA Regional Administrator in communication with Chief of Texas Division of Emergency Management
- FEMA Regional Administrator and EPA Regional Administrator are in communication.
- FEMA R6 RRCC has activated to Level 3
 - Operations, Logistics, Planning, Individual Assistance, External Affairs, American Red Cross, and currently in RRCC
 - FEMA R6 Recovery has 3 (three) IA PDA teams on standby and are coordinating with SBA
 - IMAT 2 on stand-by to deploy if requested by the state (returning to Region 6 FEMA Office at approximately

- 1430 CDT from Arkansas' Vigilant Guard Exercise)
 - FEMA R6 External Affairs will be hosting a Congressional Outreach Call tentatively scheduled at 1400 CDT to provide a situation update.
- HHS activated and is communicating with Texas Department of State Health Services:
 - Crisis Counseling, mortuary assistance, and re-establishment of local EMS being discussed with State.
 - Two (2) Disaster Medical Assistance Teams and the Region 6 Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team (DMORT) on alert.
 - Moving the DMORT assessment team to DFW
- Environmental Protection Agency has deployed Mobile Command Post to the site
 - EPA has activated their EOC
 - Has approximately six (6) employees on site
 - Have flown their ASPECT plane last night and intend to fly today.
- GSA reports no federal facilities or congressional offices reporting damage
- Distribution Center Ft. Worth current Readiness:
 - Water (liters): 3,124,890
 - Commercial Meals (ea): 659,458
 - Reduced Sodium Meals (ea): 869,224
 - Infant Toddler Kits (ea): 0
 - Hygiene/Comfort Kits (ea): 50,000
 - Cots (ea): 31,836
 - Blankets (ea): 208,492
 - Consumable Medical Supplies (ea): 2
 - Durable Medical Equipment (ea): 4
 - Tarps (20'x25'): 135,080
 - Generators (ea): 101

PREPARED BY: RRCC R6 Planning Section
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